

REMARKS

The Examiner's indication of allowance of claims 22-24 as well as allowable subject matter of claims 11-13 and 17-21 is noted with appreciation.

Claims 6, 8, 9, and 11-27 are pending in the application. Although Applicants do not agree with the Examiner's positions as manifested in paragraphs 4-6 of the Office Action, the rejected claims have nevertheless been amended to specifically define over the art, solely for the purpose of expediting prosecution.

In particular, independent claim 6 has been amended to include claims 7 and 10 (now cancelled), as well as some limitations of allowable claim 11. Amended claim 6 is patentable over the applied references, especially *JP '058*, because the reference fails to teach or suggest a ground contact that comprises a tongue projecting outwards of the second compartment, **on the same side as the teeth**, as now recited in amended claim 6. In *JP '058*, the teeth, according to the Examiner, are elements 16 and 16a and the ground contact is element 17 near mounting leg 15. The teeth and ground contact of *JP '058* project from opposite sides of the casing, as can be seen in FIG. 1 of *JP '058*.

Claims 8-9 and 14 are patentable over the applied references at least for the reason advanced with respect to claim 6 from which claims 8-9 and 14 depend.

The scope of allowable claims 11 and 12 remains unchanged, notwithstanding the amendments made to claims 6, 8 and 10.

Allowable claim 13 has been rewritten in independent form including all limitations of base claim 6 and intervening claims 7 and 10. Claim 13 is patentable over the applied references because the references clearly fail to disclose, teach or suggest **a conductor on the outer surface of said second compartment** for connecting the electronic high-voltage-pulse generating circuit to

a control of the cooking range, as recited in claim 13.

The indicated allowable subject matter of previously presented claim 13 is now included in new claim 25.

Independent claim 15 has been amended to additionally require that the entire casing, including said first and second compartments, be integrally made in **one piece** from insulating material. Amended claim 15 is patentable over the applied references, especially *JP '058*, because the reference fails to teach or suggest the claimed one-piece casing. As argued in the previous Amendments, *JP '058* even strongly teaches away from the claimed one-piece casing.

The added feature of claim 15 finds at least *inherent* support in the specification. For example, in page 2, lines 8-20 of the specification, the known prior configuration is described to have a standard terminal board having an independent casing and a lighting device having another separate casing. The lighting device is then preassembled to the standard terminal board. The preassembled device is then fitted to the appliance. The drawbacks of the known configuration are described in page 2, lines 15-20 of the specification. The object of the present invention is to eliminate the drawbacks, as described in page 2, lines 22-27 of the specification. Therefore, a person of ordinary skill in the art would at once recognize that the casing is formed in one piece, so as to reduce assembling time and cost, as now recited in claim 15.

Claim 16 is patentable over the applied references at least for the reason advanced with respect to claim 15 from which claim 16 depends.

Allowable claim 17 has been rewritten in independent form including some limitations of base claim 15. Claim 17 is patentable over the applied references because the references clearly fail to disclose, teach or suggest a ground contact that comprises a tongue projecting outwards of the second compartment, **on the same side as the teeth**, as recited in claim 17. In *JP '058*, the teeth, according to the Examiner, are elements 16 and 16a and the ground contact is element 17 near

mounting leg 15. The teeth and ground contact of *JP '058* project from opposite sides of the casing, as can be seen in FIG. 1 of *JP '058*.

The indicated allowable subject matter of previously presented claim 17 is now included in new claim 26.

Claims 18-19 are patentable over the applied references at least for the reason advanced with respect to claim 17 from which claims 18-19 depend.

Amended independent claim 20 is patentable over the applied references because the references clearly fail to disclose, teach or suggest that **said tongue is positioned between said teeth**, as recited in claim 20. In *JP '058*, the ground contact 17 is not positioned between teeth 16, 16a as can be seen in FIG. 1 of the reference.

New claim 27 is patentable over the applied references at least for the reason advanced with respect to claim 20 from which claim 27 depends.

Allowable claim 21 has been rewritten in independent form including all limitations of base claim 6, in the manner kindly suggested by the Examiner in paragraph 8 of the Office Action.

Claims 22-24 are allowed.


Each of the Examiner's rejections has been traversed/overcome. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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